

REMARKS

Applicants note that a Preliminary Amendment canceling claims 1-6 was filed on May 12, 2006 in the present application. The outstanding Restriction Requirement is directed to claims 1-7. Applicants respectfully submit the Restriction Requirement is improper because claims 1-6 have been previously cancelled.

In a telephone interview with Examiner Doan, the undersigned was instructed to submit the present response with the above explanation of the status of the claims. The Examiner further stated that the Restriction Requirement would be withdrawn, and claims 7-16 would be examined.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this response is fully responsive to the Restriction Requirement, and that no further submissions are required. Applicants anticipate receiving an Office Action on merits of claims 7-16 in the next correspondence. Should the Examiner have any questions or require any additional information, she is requested to contact the undersigned.

Although not considered necessary, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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